

ABSTRACT

A composite system including a printer having a carriage capable of interchangeably holding a print  
5 cartridge and a reader cartridge, and a host computer to which print software and read software are installed, capable of selectively realizing a print function or a read function, and a method for launching the selected  
10 function. When a detection mechanism provided in the carriage detects attachment of a cartridge, it outputs a signal indicative of the attachment and type of the cartridge. The host computer automatically launches either the print software or the read software depending upon the signal.

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